

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

DATE : 18 MAY 54

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

ROUTING

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TO : DIRECTOR
 FROM : LINCOLN
 ACTION: WH (PBS) (1-3)
 INFO : DCI (4), D/DCI (5), DD/P (L) (6), WH (7), SA/PC/DCI (8),
 A/DD/P/P (9)

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CSI/HAS ON OCT 8, 1956

LINC 2799 (IN 48211) 0433Z 18 MAY 54 OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE
 PRECEDENCE

TO: OPIM INFO: OPIM DIR CITE: SLINC
 FOR ONTRICH/LUGTON INFO: SKILLET
 RYBAT PSSUCCESS

1. FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM GUAT FOR YOUR INFO AND DIS-
 CREDIT BRIEFING CALLIGERIS:

A. ADVISED 17 MAY THAT DUE TOTAL WEIGHT
 SHIPMENT PLUS FACT RAILS ARE NARROW GUAGE AND ROAD GRADE EX-
 TREMLY STEEP SEVERAL PLACES BETWEEN PUERTO BARRIOS AND CAPITAL
 APPROX 100 RAILROAD CARS WILL BE NEEDED TRANSPORT CARGO. FOR
 THAT REASON SHIPMENT WILL BE BROUGHT TO CAPITAL IN SEVERAL
 TRAINS, POSSIBLY 8 TO 10.

B. FURTHER STATED THAT WSBURNT GOVT ORDERED 15 FLAT
 CARS BUT JUST CANCELLED 8 CARS. REMAINING 7 LEFT PUERTO BARRIOS
 FOR CAPITAL AT 9: 30 A.M. TODAY. CARS LOADED WITH LARGE
 CRATES, DIMENSIONS AND NUMBER AS YET UNKNOWN. GOVT ADVISED
 THEY WILL NOT NEED MORE FLAT CARS. OF OPINION
 CRATES CONTAIN HEAVY FIELD PIECES.

C. DUE STORM WHICH STARTED BARRIOS SATURDAY NIGHT

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AND CONTINUED THROUGH SUNDAY, ONLY ABOVE 7 CARS OF CRATES UNLOADED. WORKMEN ON DOCK SAY "REST WILL BE EASY" INDICATING REMAINING PORTION CONSISTS SMALL CRATES.

D.

STALL AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.

ATTEMPT TO HAVE ENTIRE SHIPMENT STORED IN CARS ON RAIL SIDING AT STATION NAMED "LA BARRERA" LOCATED 3 AND 1/2 MILES NORTH EAST OF CAPITAL, AND SITUATED CLOSE TO MILITARY BASED NAMED "ACETUNA" CURRENTLY UNDER COMPLETION AND POSSIBLY ULTIMATE DESTINATION ARMAMENT,

E. ATTEMPTING SPOT AMMO SING CONSIDER THIS KEY TO MATTER.

F. SEAMEN ABOARD ALFHEM TOLD PUERTO BARRIOS THAT ANOTHER SHIP DUE HERE WITHIN 2 DAYS AND A 3RD DUE AS SOON AS THE 2ND SHIP LEAVES. NAMES DATE THESE SHIPS NOT KNOWN.

G. HIGH RANKING MILITARY OFFICERS INCLUDING MIN DEF SANCHEZ, ALFONSO MARTINEZ, COL BARZANALLANA, WERE IN PUERTO BARRIOS AWAITING ARRIVAL SHIP AND STILL THERE. SANCHEZ OTHERS AT HOTEL DEL NORTE, PUERTO BARRIOS ACCCOMPANIED BY AIDES AND AT LEAST 5 BODY GUARDS.

H. CRATES UNLOADED ON 7 FLAT CARS AND NOW ENROUTE

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CAPITAL HAVE FOLLOWING SHAPE AND SIZE; 9 FEET HIGH, BASE 3 FEET BY 3 FEET, TOP ROUND WITH DIAMETER APPROX 18 INCHES, ONE SIDE CRATE PERPENDICULAR AND OTHER SIDE SLOPING LIKE PYRAMID. WEIGHT 785 POUNDS EACH. TRIANGULAR MARKING ON SIDE OF CRATES. COULD BE MORTARS.

f. 3 BOX CARS UNKNOWN CONTENTS ALSO ENROUTE CAPITAL. SHOULD ARRIVE AROUND MID NIGHT. DUE ABUNDANCE EMPTIES PUERTO BARRIOS IMPOSSIBLE DENY MILITARY THEIR USE APPARENTLY MILITARY INTENDS FORWARD TO CAPITAL AS UNLOADED WHICH DIRECT FROM SHIP TO TRAIN CARS.

J. PUERTO BARRIOS ESTIMATES THAT GOVT WILL NEED MINIMUM 7 DAYS TO UNLOAD SHIP AT PRESENT SPEED ALTHOUGH MINISTER SANCHEZ TRYING HURRY.

K. NO SIGNS AMMO UNLOADED AS YET BUT PROBABLE SUCH ABOARD ALTHOUGH CREW MEMBERS DID NOT TAKE ANY PRECAUTIONS USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH AMMO SHIPMENTS. WILL ATTEMPT PREVENT AMMO SHIPMENTS COMING CAPITAL ATTACHED TO REGULAR TRAINS. HAVE PROMISED ADVISE UPON LEARNING ABOUT AMMO.

L. DUE CONGESTION PORT AS RESULT STRIKE NEW YORK, TRAINS LEAVING EVERY 3 OR 4 HOURS. TO THESE TRAINS GOVT APPARENTLY INTENDS HITCH CARS CONTAINING ALFHEM MATERIAL. IMPOSSIBLE OBTAIN ETD SINCE TRAINS DEPARTING AS LOADED. IMPOSSIBLE OBTAIN THAT MATERIAL BE FORWARDED IN ONE TRAIN. UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS

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AELFHEM CARGO WOULD TAKE MINIMUM OF FIVE DOUBLE HEADER TRAINS

M. MEANWHILE PUBLIC KEEP AWAY FROM PIER AND NO
VISITORS ALLOWED ABOARD.

END OF MESSAGE

CABLE SECRETARIAT COMMENT:

A TEMPO COPY OF THIS MESSAGE WAS ISSUED TO
AT 0130 18 MAY 54.

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